

Covid-19 Expanded Health and Safety Protocols

Safety has always come first at Happy Days and now the safety of our students, staff, and families has become even more important. We have worked hard to create a new health and safety protocol for our school that follows CDC guidelines and is designed to make learning safe and fun every day.

Below, you will find a general overview of new and enhanced procedures. Feel free to talk with your center Director for more detailed information.

Face masks or Facial Coverings

All staff and visitors to our center must wear a mask or facial covering at all times while in our parking lot or within the center. Children are not required to wear facial coverings at school.

Hand Washing and Sanitizing

All staff, children and visitors must wash their hands upon entering the facility. In the event that hand washing is not immediately available, hand sanitizer is available in the lobby and throughout the center. Children and teachers will practice proper hand washing techniques as part of the daily curriculum in the classrooms. Infants and toddlers will have their hands washed with soap and water throughout the day.

Travel

Visitors to the center are asked to adhere to CDC travel guidelines. Families who have traveled from certain areas may have specific guidelines for self-quarantine before returning to school. Please refer to the CDC website for up to date information on travel guidelines.

Daily Health Screening

All staff and children will have their temperature taken with an infrared No-Touch Forehead Thermometer upon arrival. Their temperature will be logged. Staff and children must be well and symptom free before beginning their day. We encourage parents to take their child's temperature at home before arriving to school as an additional precaution. Children or staff members with a temperature of 100.4 F or 38.0 C or higher cannot enter the facility and must be symptom-free without the aid of medication for at least 48 hours before returning to school.

Sick Children

Staff will monitor children's health throughout the day. If in the event a child was to show signs of illness while at school, that child would be moved to a safe and comfortable area away from the group and parents or guardian will be called to pick them up ASAP. Please make sure that emergency contact information is up to date in your child's file.

New Drop-off and Pick-up Procedures

Children and families will be greeted in our center lobby and a daily health screening will be done. If your child is well and healthy and can attend school that day, he/she will be brought to the classroom by a staff member. For the health and safety of our school, parents and visitors may not enter the playground or classrooms. For the parents/guardians of our littlest friends, the infants and toddlers, parents/guardians may choose to bring their child to the classroom door in order to deliver specific care instructions or daily food and bottles packed inside a bag. Parents are asked not to enter the classroom but can remain at the classroom door where staff can greet them.

General Social Distancing

We will maintain social distancing to the extent possible throughout the day. We ask that all parents/guardians and visitors not congregate inside the facility or in the facility parking lot. We ask that visits to the center be brief and that a distance of 6 feet be kept between visitors whenever possible. We are all excited to see each other after such a long break but please remember to keep a distance. Smiles can be seen in your eyes and waves can show our affection.

Classrooms will alternate playground usage. Children and staff from individual classrooms will keep distance from children and staff in other classrooms.

In the Classroom

Staff will create an environment wherein children can safely play and explore. Extra space will be added between children while they are seated at the tables and at circle time. Some toys that are hard to clean such as stuffed animals, pillows, and dramatic play area costumes may be reduced or removed. Toys from home will not be allowed and classroom toys will be routinely cleaned and disinfected throughout the day. Classroom furniture and other high touch surfaces will be cleaned on an even more frequent schedule to maintain cleanliness in the rooms. Classroom doors will be opened for fresh air and ventilation whenever possible. Frequent supervised hand washing will be part of the classroom curriculum.

Naptime

Children's cots will be spaced further apart and children will alternate laying head to toe. Personal items for nap time must be minimal to allow for adequate spacing between cots while stacking for storage. Personal items for nap must be taken home weekly for washing but families are welcome to take them home more frequently if desired.

Mealtimes

Happy Days will continue to offer nutritious snacks twice a day and milk will be provided. At this time, our school lunch program will be paused so families must send a lunch for their child each day. Please make sure to include any utensils needed for eating their lunch. All dishes, cups, bottles, utensils, or containers for eating or drinking must be taken home daily for washing.

We are so excited to see everyone returning to school! Please see your center Director for any questions or clarification on our policies. Welcome back!